

## REMARKS

### Objections to the Claims

Various objections are made to claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-21. The claims in the state prior to the amendments offered in this paper are understood to be reasonably clear to one skilled in the art. However, the claims are amended for purposes of expediting prosecution and not for purposes of patentability. Not all of the suggested changes were entered verbatim into the claims. For example, in some instances fewer words than those suggested in the Office Action are added to the claims while providing the desired clarity. In a specific instance, the language "the plurality of selectable delay trim units" was not added because there are no other delay trim units other than the plurality of selectable ones. Thus, recitation of "the delay trim units" is thought to be reasonably clear.

No amendment is made to claim 6, because the current language, "if the delay trim units enabled in the adjustable delay line reach a predetermined level", is thought to be reasonably clear. The objected-to language already clearly refers to "the delay trim units enabled in the adjustable delay line" and adding the suggested language ("the plurality of selectable delay") to reference the delay trim units would not appear to make the language any clearer as there are no other enabled delay trim units.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 9-21 as amended overcome the objections to the informalities of these claims and are thought to be in condition for allowance.

Please note that these amendments are not narrowing and are not made for the purposes of patentability or avoiding the prior art.

### Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Moon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,600,771, hereinafter "Moon").

The Office Action does not establish that claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 20, and 21 are anticipated under 35 USC §102(e) by Moon. The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show that Moon teaches all the limitations of the claims.

Claim 8 is a method for spreading the electromagnetic emissions of a generated clock signal that is created in response to a reference clock signal and includes limitations of providing a delay line in the path of the reference clock signal; and adjusting trim units in the delay line in a pre-determined pattern during consecutive clock cycles. The Office Action does not show that Moon teaches all these limitations. For example, the claim recites "adjusting trim units in the delay line in a pre-determined pattern during consecutive clock cycles," and no teaching of Moon suggests any pre-determined pattern. The cited teaching of Moon suggests a pseudo-random number sequence. Those skilled in the art will recognize that there should be no apparent pre-determined pattern found in a pseudo-random number sequence. Thus, Moon's pseudo-random number sequence neither teaches nor suggested the claimed pre-determined pattern. Similarly in claim 20, the claimed "repeating regular pattern" is not suggested by Moon's pseudo-random number sequence.

As to claim 9, the limitations include providing an offset in the reference clock signal prior to the step of adjusting. Moon teaches controlling a delay with Vctrl2 (col. 5, l. 13). However, Moon's control of the delay does not suggest doing so prior to adjusting trim units as claimed.

Claims 17 and 21 depend from claims 8 and 20, respectively, and are not shown to be anticipated for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 18 depends from claim 9 and is not shown to be anticipated for at least the reasons set forth above.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 20 and 21 as being anticipated by Moon since all the limitations of the claims do not appear to be shown by Moon.

#### Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the statement that "Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the claim objections set forth in this Office Action." The current amendments are thought to overcome all valid claim objections. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to these claims.

Claims 10-16 are objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. No amendments are made to claims 10-16 to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims, because the base claims are thought to be patentable over Moon for at least the reasons described above.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If there are any questions, please telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution of this case.


Respectfully submitted,



Lois D. Cartier  
Agent for Applicants  
Reg. No.: 40,941  
(720) 652-3733

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 8, 2005.

Pat Slaback  
Name

  
Signature